PREFACE TO THE THIRD EDITION

IT is, naturally, gratifying to the author that the continued sales of this book make a further revised edition possible. In the nearly eleven years since the last revision, the advance of scholarship has revealed some new facts and has disclosed fresh angles on old views. Advantage has been taken of this progress to alter a number of the existing pages. Friends, both in private letters and in published reviews, have pointed out mistakes. These have been rectified. The changes have been mainly in the first volume, but several have been made in the second. In these nearly eleven years, moreover, striking developments have occurred in China. The struggle with Japan which began in 1931 has been intensified through the penetration by the invader of much of China Proper. China has become a participant in a second world war. Indeed, instead of being on the periphery of that struggle, as in the First World War of the twentieth century, China was the scene of the first stages of the contest which later assumed world-wide proportions and has suffered fully as much as any of the other combatants. The revolution in all phases of Chinese culture which has been so momentous a feature of the twentieth century has been accelerated. To take account of these developments it has been necessary to add a number of pages to the first volume, to rewrite certain other pages toward the close of that volume, and to modify pages in the second volume which deal with the changes of the present century. The bibliographies have been

thoroughly re-worked. Some titles have been deleted and many have been added, particularly of books and articles which have appeared since the last revision. The effort has been made, then, to bring the book fully down to date—in its summary of existing knowledge of the history and culture of the Chinese, in its account of recent events, and in bibliography. It is to be hoped that the usefulness of the *book will be not only prolonged but also enhanced. The author would express his thanks to Professors J. J. L. Duyvendak, L. C.